

# EDITORIAL

## Read All About It!

This week the 1951 auditor's report for Acton became available to ratepayers. It's a book of over 40 pages and mighty interesting for those who want the facts about their town. Sometimes there is a lot of loose talk about town affairs that is not beneficial to the town and repeating it often gets it stamped as authentic. Well, the facts are available to any ratepayer who will go to the municipal office and just ask for a copy. The number printed is limited so don't send junior for your report but get it yourself.

We could go over it and analyze it with some interest because it tells all about your money spent in municipal governments in the Utilities Commission, School Boards, Library Board, Cemetery Board, Planning Board and Citizens' Band. You can get the figures straight in the copy of Acton Auditor's Report and not depend on rumor.

Several years ago the list of those in arrears for taxes was published in the report but that is not the custom now. It is rather interesting to note that last year there was \$3,284.03 in taxes receivable. Of this amount \$2,971.32 was for the year 1951 and \$260 was owing from 1950 with small amounts from the two years previous. Penalties and interest on overdue amounts were \$152.21.

We must cease. If you want to read all about it, get your copy of the Auditor's Report for 1951 at the Municipal Office. They are available without cost and it's your business statement.

## The Cars that Stop

There was a day when a municipality would hold an indignation meeting and voice strong protest if a highway was constructed that did not pass right through the centre of the town. But that was the day when automobiles and trucks were not so common. Recently we learned that Brampton Council has requested the Department of Highways to re-route No. 7 to by-pass the town and help relieve the congested traffic conditions.

It is stated that Hon. George Doucet has told the Brampton Conservator that, "by-passing built-up areas is the coming thing. The Department of Highways attitude has been to divert traffic away from towns and cities, wherever possible. With a few new highway projects, we're making a definite policy of skirting municipalities."

Some business men may find objection to the plan of bypassing towns on highways and the resulting business loss may prove of interest in connection with new highway planning.

The American City (a publication, in a note dated May 10, 1952) tells how in California cities and towns bypassed by new highways do more business. An example was North Sacramento. In the two years following opening of a by-pass over-all value of retail business rose by 45.5 per cent., or almost twice the national increase. In Auburn, California, where a transcontinental highway went down the main street & by-pass around the business district was followed by a 17 per cent. increase in the area's income. Even parking meter receipts increased two per cent.

The lesson is that it is not the number of cars that go by but the number that stop that provide business, and if they can't stop, or have no place to park, business disappears.

## Clean Up Streets, Too

In this spring clean-up and beautification business we should not overlook municipal property, says The Financial Post. One of the worst offenders in untidiness is often the town government.

Private citizens plant trees and flowers, paint their fences and trim their grass only to have the whole effect spoiled by litter on streets and boulevard or in some vacant lot next door. Weeds grow high and rank on municipal owned property or on property over which the town can exercise control. Garbage collectors leave a trail of papers, boxes and garbage pail lids behind them. Beautiful shade trees, sometimes whole streets of them, are slaughtered without consideration.

There is little hope of making any town or city really attractive unless the municipal authorities do their share.

## Village or Fighting Town

After being well over the required population figure for several years, Fergus has decided to cast off the village status and become a town just as Acton did three years ago and Editor Hugh Templin discusses the matter in the Fergus News-Record. After 97 years as a village it may seem quite an important step to take, and from a local standpoint Free Press readers will be interested in the viewpoint that is given by a resident of Acton.

"The other side of the argument was advanced to us privately one night last week by a lady who lives in Acton. Acton became a town recently, with well over the required 2,000 population."

"The lady said she had seen that Fergus was to become a town. We'd probably regret, she said. Many Acton people did. It seemed to be the size of the council that made the difference. Acton used to be a peaceful place when it was a village. Now, there was scrapping and fighting all the time, she said. And the tax rate was going way up."

We never like to challenge the viewpoint of a lady or express a contrary stand, but we feel that Fergus should not be deterred from this important step by one opinion and perhaps ours might be added to the bewilderment.

We haven't found anything yet that would cause Acton to want to go back to village status even if it were possible. Becoming a town has nothing to do with the transition from a peaceful village to a "scrapping, fighting" town and neither has the size of the council. Acton is a growing industrial centre. We've put in sewers and a disposal plant, built a new section to the public school, had an enormous job of putting roads and streets in repair, renewing water services, buying road machinery and doing all the things that rapid growth demands. To keep up with it all has been a real job, but it would have been the same if we had remained a village.

In view of the fact that members of Acton council serve without remuneration, the size of the governing body can make no difference to the tax rate. The improvements that any rapidly expanding municipality encounter make for many differences of opinion. We like the peacefulness of a small village but the name of town or village has nothing whatever to do with that tranquility. Fergus has had the growth which which it in town-status and it might as well admit it and become a town and discard the misnomer of village. If the community is growing, the tax rate will go up anyway.

## Blissful Ignorance

Among the things recently developed but which we haven't yet seen on the market is a new type of garbage can designed to keep animals out. It is made of hard black rubber with a lid that is screwed on so that odors stay in and animals stay out. We have no information on cost and how permanent the type of lid will remain after usage.

We judge that if the price is reasonable, however, many folks will be willing to give the new can a trial. It just seems hopeless to keep the dogs tied up and instinct seems to guide them to the garbage pails no matter how well they are fed at home. It's quite annoying to residents and those who collect garbage to find the cans upset and the litter all over the street or premises. We have tried putting a shovel or some other heavy article on top and the noise of it falling usually scares the visitor away from that trip. Trouble is that such a racket usually awakens the whole household also and we don't know whether the dogs or the residents get the worst of the deal.

Some day some one will go along with a simple garbage can that will fool the dogs and stand bouncing around after it has been emptied or bounce back into shape again after it has been collapsed. In the meantime the dogs are having the best of the argument in spite of all the laws that can be passed. We enjoy the blissful ignorance of our canine friends sometimes.

## Editorial Notes

One of the consolations of getting-over 50 is the fact that no one bothers you any more to sell life insurance policies.

Holiday schedules are now in operation in most industries and it is well to keep this in mind in placing orders and deliveries are likely to be slower.



It's not me that can't keep a secret, dear! It's the girls I tell them too.



## 47 Plus 30

Bob Goldham, of Georgetown and the Detroit Red Wings (in that order) was guest speaker at the Georgetown Juvenile hockey championship banquet two weeks ago. Here's part of the report:

"Bob added a few personal reminiscences of his younger days in Georgetown, for the benefit of some of his 'partners in crime' who were present at the dinner, and had grown up with him."

"He said that in his opinion, the most valuable asset of a hockey player was a good coach. Bob felt that he had been lucky at the start of his career by having his biggest fan to coach him, his father. In his opinion, his present coach, Detroit's Tommy Ivan was tops in the business, with Hap Day ranking a close second. He told the boys that if they were thinking of hockey as a career, fix their objective at the top aim for the NHL."

"In closing a very interesting talk, Bob told an amusing little joke on himself. It seems that where Bob works in Toronto some of the boys were kidding the star defenseman about not scoring a goal this season. When asked the next time about his scoring, Bob replied that between he and Ted Lindsay and Gord Howe, they had scored 77 goals! When asked to break it down it seemed that Gord Howe had scored 47 and Lindsay 30!"

**Out of Gas?**  
Here it is, just as with moon, spoon, cream and honey-moon. And what happens? They give the police chief a camera for use on the back roads of Trafalgar. Color photography of the trees and clouds? Uh-uh. Black and White.  
The chief presented a bill to Trafalgar council for five prints taken of spowers and robbers of Trafalgar back roads. He was instructed to order a flash camera to assist him in gaining evidence.  
So be sure to have enough gas.

**Oakville Barrymores**  
Oakville is to have a summer theatre this year. The Carousell theatre will produce "Camille", "Playboy of the Western World" is also on the program. The Carousell is also on the program. And men in acting for local Bernhardt's and Barrymores. (And these Barrymores really were an acting family)

# AT THE Churches

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
Acton, Ontario  
A FRIENDLY CHURCH  
Rev. E. A. Currey, B.A., B.D. Minister  
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue  
Phone 60  
Miss O. M. Lampard, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 15th, 1952**  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship, Flower Sunday and Children's Service. Speaker, Mr. Dobby, Bronte S. S. Music and recitations by the children. Special Church bulletin. Decorated church.  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship. Music Service. Subject, "The Mark of the Master." Mission. Thought for the Week: "Childhood is like a mirror, which reflects in after life the images first presented to it."  
Special Sunday School.

**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
ACTON  
Dwight L. Patterson, Pastor  
Thursday, June 12—The mid-week Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 8:30 p.m.  
Friday, June 13—Junior High Fellowship at 7:30 p.m.  
SUNDAY, JUNE 15th, 1952  
10:30 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:30 a.m.—"Only One Gospel"  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service  
8:15 p.m.—Young People's  
Tuesday, June 17—Women's Mission Circle at the home of Mrs. Loyal McCutcheon, 8:15 p.m.

**BETHEL BAPTIST MISSION**  
JOHN JONES, Pastor  
Y.M.C.A. BUILDING  
Side Entrance  
SUNDAY, JUNE 15th, 1952  
10:00 a.m.—Bible School  
11:00 a.m.—"A Turn for the Worse" (Third in a series of messages on the life of Joseph)  
7:30 p.m.—"Wonder of Wonders"  
Saturday, 8:00 p.m.—Open Air meeting (Mill Street, near Main)  
"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10: 13

**ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH**  
(Anglican)  
Rev. Ralph E. Price, B.A., B.D. Rector  
Trinity I  
SUNDAY, JUNE 15th, 1952  
10:00 a.m.—Church School  
11:15 a.m.—Beginners' Class  
11:15 a.m.—Holy Eucharist  
7:00 p.m.—Evening and Sermon  
"The family that prays together stays together"

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

**Back in 1902**  
From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, June 12th, 1902

Messrs. Fred and Eddie Ryder, both played with Woodstock Lacrosse Club at London in their championship match on Saturday. Both are highly spoken of by the Woodstock paper on Monday.

A distinguished honor has just been conferred upon one of Acton's sons, and a former editor of the Free Press. At the annual session of Hamilton conference which closed at Woodstock on Tuesday, Rev. T. Albert Moore was elected president of Hamilton conference of the Methodist church by a very flattering majority.

The emigration of farm hands from Great Britain to Canada, and especially to the province of Ontario, has been on an exceptionally large scale during the spring. The farm help problem promises to be a serious one this summer, owing to a large amount of agricultural hands to the Northwest and New Ontario.

Brampton has passed a cigarette by-law. If Acton has the welfare of the rising generation at heart, they will emulate Brampton's example.

It is altogether likely that a baseball league will be formed consisting of Hamburg, Acton, Waterloo and Guelph as each of these towns have excellent teams and all are anxious to get in a league.

Chapter 69 of the Ontario Statutes provides that any person who ties a horse to a shade tree in the street or cuts, trims or injures such a tree in any way is liable to a fine. The person in front of whose place the tree is is not exempt from the restriction.

Does the Streets and Walks committee not know that some of our old plank walks, especially on Main Street, are positively dangerous?

**WOMEN HAVE EDGE**  
Women outnumber men in subscribing to the Federal Government's Annuities, according to the Labor Department figures. Of 48,000 contracts under which annuities are already being paid, close to 27,000 are women.

**Back in 1932**  
From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, June 9th, 1932

The first band concert of the season by Acton Citizens' Band on Sunday evening was very enjoyable.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Perryman, of Brantford, formerly of Acton, celebrated their fifty-third wedding anniversary last week.

Only two names were put in for the nominations of Reeve and School Trustee. E. T. Theford is Reeve by acclamation and W. R. Norton School Trustee to fill the vacancy by the removal of Mr. James Hudson. Mr. Theford had served on the Council for eleven years and is well qualified for the office.

Sunday was the Annual Decoration Day Service of Acton I.O.O.F. In the afternoon graves of the deceased in Fairview Cemetery were decorated and in the evening the annual church service was held in the United Church.

The Acton Baseball Nine won their third straight game when they beat Oakville on Saturday by the score of 10-9.

The business men of Acton have planned their first community event for Friday and Saturday. There will be band concerts both evenings, lucky number tickets with cash prizes, a ball game Saturday afternoon. This is the biggest merchandising event ever put on in Acton.

**DIED**  
CRAWFORD—At the home, Church Street, Acton, on Tuesday, June 7, 1932, Jane Hyde, beloved wife of John Crawford, in her 71st year.

**FOR BOYS OF ALL CREEDS**  
Canada's 3,024 Scout Groups embrace many denominations. Here are the affiliations: Anglican 455; Baptist 101; Hebrew 23; Latter Day Saints 37; Lutheran 23; Presbyterian 129; Roman Catholic 451; Salvation Army 74; United 44; Other Denominations 25; Canadian Legion 90; Community 802; Handicapped 3; School 49; Service Clubs 160; Miscellaneous 146.

**LEVER & HOSKIN**  
Chartered Accountants  
Successors to JENKINS AND HARDY  
1405 Metropolitan Bldg  
44 Victoria St., Toronto  
Eig. 9131

**A. J. CRANDELL**  
Chartered Accountant  
Main Street—Georgetown  
Telephone 634

**D. J. ARMSTRONG**  
Doctor of Chiropractic  
15 Frederick St. N.  
Acton  
PHONE 550

**REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE**  
WRIGHT REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE  
F. I. WRIGHT N. B. WRIGHT  
20 Wilbur St. 69 Macdonnell St.  
Acton, Ont. Guelph, Ont.  
Phone 95 Phone 403-W

**VALUATORS REALTORS INSURERS**  
Members Appraisal Institute of Canada  
Members Guelph and District Real Estate Board  
Members Guelph and District Insurance Agents Association

**W. A. R. BRACKEN**  
Real Estate  
GENERAL INSURANCE  
Phone 26 Acton

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
THE VICTOR B. RUMLEY  
FUNERAL HOME  
Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance  
Phone 20 night or day  
Serving the community for 45 years

**EYE CARE**  
By Appointment  
W. M. C. MILLIGAN, R.O.  
Optometrist  
1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Mill St. Residence of A. T. BROWN

**The Acton Free Press**  
The Only Paper Ever Published in Acton  
Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 36 Mill St. E. Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A., and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance. \$2.50 in Canada; \$3.50 in the United States; six months \$1.50; single copies 6c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.  
G. A. Dills, Editor and Publisher

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174